

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 194158  
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/V:WCSERGEANT (TEXT RECEIVED FROM W.H.)

APPROVED BY ARA - MR. VAKY

ARA - MR. MCNEIL

NSC - MR. PASTOR

S/S-O RCASTRODALE

-----038004 012256Z /13

O 012237Z AUG 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194158

EXDIS FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PPDC, VE, BL

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT PEREZ

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING REPLY TO PRESIDENT PEREZ'  
JULY 22 LETTER ON BOLIVIA TO PRESIDENT CARTER: QUOTE  
JULY 31, 1978 DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
LETTER OF JULY 22, 1978, EXPRESSING YOUR DEEP CONCERN  
ABOUT THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BOLIVIA.

I ASSURE YOU THAT I SHARE YOUR CONCERN ABOUT THE RECENT  
EVENTS IN BOLIVIA BUT I HOPE THEY WILL BE ONLY A TEMPORARY  
SETBACK FOR THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY IN BOLIVIA AND IN LATIN  
AMERICA. WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN OVER THIS ACTION  
PUBLICLY; PRIVATELY WE HAVE URGED THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP  
OF BOLIVIA TO EXPEDITE NEW ELECTIONS AND TO RESPECT FULLY  
THE RIGHTS OF ITS PEOPLE. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT OUR  
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FUTURE RELATIONS WILL BE AFFECTED IN SIGNIFICANT WAYS BY  
THE DECISIONS WHICH THE BOLIVIAN LEADERSHIP TAKES IN THE  
DAYS AHEAD.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED WORD FROM GENERAL PEREDA THAT HE  
INTENDS TO MAKE A SPEECH WHICH WILL ESTABLISH A NEW  
ELECTORAL FRAMEWORK AND PERMIT GENUINELY FREE ELECTIONS IN

1980. HE ALSO HAS INFORMED US THAT HIS SPEECH WILL INCLUDE A BROAD GUARANTEE OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. WE WELCOME THESE STEPS AS POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE. WE BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE ELECTORAL TIMETABLE MAY EVEN BE ACCELERATED. IF BOLIVIA CAN INSTITUTIONALIZE A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, THAT WOULD INDEED REPRESENT IMPORTANT PROGRESS FOR THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY IN BOLIVIA AND IN THE HEMISPHERE.

I HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED YOUR SUGGESTION THAT WE TAKE ACTION ON THIS MATTER IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS); I WOULD PROPOSE THAT OUR RESPECTIVE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR MUTUAL SUPPORT FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF FREE ELECTIONS AND OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE BOLIVIAN SITUATION A MATTER OF RECORD. I AM CONFIDENT THAT A NUMBER OF OAS MEMBER NATIONS WOULD JOIN SUCH AN EFFORT.

I FEEL THAT THIS, TOGETHER WITH POSITIVE ENCOURAGEMENT FROM BOTH OUR COUNTRIES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA FOR A FIRM COMMITMENT TO CARRY THROUGH ON RETURNING THAT COUNTRY TO DEMOCRATIC RULE, COULD WELL BRING ABOUT THE RESULTS WE SEEK. YOUR GOVERNMENT'S RECENT STATEMENT ON THE ELECTORAL SITUATION IN BOLIVIA WAS HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD.  
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I SUGGEST THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO STAY IN CLOSE CONTACT IN ORDER THAT WE MAY EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY, WHICH WE BOTH HOLD TO BE OF SUCH GREAT IMPORTANCE THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE.

WITH BEST PERSONAL REGARDS, SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER.

IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO BE ON THE SAME TEAM WITH YOU; J.  
UNQUOTE. (FYI: THIS SENTENCE IS HANDWRITTEN. END FYI)

2. PLEASE INSURE THAT LETTER IS TREATED AS PRIVILEGED CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORM VENEZUELANAS WE ARE TREATING IT IN THAT MANNER. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 aug 1978  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PPDC, VE, BL  
**To:** CARACAS  
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